

Amendments to th Abstract:

ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract that appears on page 36 of the specification with the following revised abstract which is submitted on a separate sheet.

Abstract

In order systematically to register individual, or a combination of, adverse influences on, and in order to be able better to estimate, service life or ability of a measuring field-device to function, at least one relevant influencing variable, preferably, however, a plurality thereof, is/are evaluated. In such case, 0in addition to a measured value $[(24)]$ for a process variable, further variables $[(25)$ and $(26)]$ are registered by corresponding sensors mounted on, or in, the measuring field-device and conditioned in analog format in suitable operating circuits, preparatory to registering them digitally with the same A/D-converter $[(21)]$ that registers the measurement signal $[[A]]$ for the process variable. Multiplexer $[(22)]$ permits selection of the desired input signal, which is then processed further with the aid of a microprocessor $[(23)]$. Then, the combined effect of the different influencing variables is determined and a remaining, probable service life calculated. In case the influencing variables $[(25, 26)]$ assume critical values, the microprocessor $[(23)]$ can trigger an alarm signal.